

sitting next to me asked about the theme, and I informed him that we take great pride in football down in Alabama.

I then informed him that the same amount of pride we take in our football teams, along with a ton of hard work, is put into the construction of the A321 aircraft. The men and women who work for Airbus recognize how monumental this moment is for the Mobile community, the State of Alabama, and the entire United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident we will be building these aircraft in Mobile for many years to come, and I am so excited about the future of aviation in Southwest Alabama. So, on behalf of my constituents in Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate Airbus and all of their hardworking employees on this impressive achievement.

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CELEBRATING LIONS CLUBS  
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT DR.  
JITSUHIRO YAMADA'S LEADERSHIP

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**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2016*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, President of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service organization, for his many years of outstanding service and dedication. Dr. Yamada was elected by his peers in June 2015 to facilitate the work of 1.4 million Lions Clubs International members in over 200 countries and territories. Working with over 46,000 clubs, Dr. Yamada promotes an international effort to aid the blind and visually impaired, champion youth initiatives, and strengthen local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects.

As a member of the Lakeville Lions Club in Indiana, I have seen the impact Lions Clubs can have on local communities. They work to promote the principles of responsible government and good citizenship by uniting individuals from all walks of life with a mission to foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world. As President of Lions Clubs International, Dr. Yamada is the very embodiment of those ideals.

The world truly owes a great deal of respect and gratitude to incredible individuals like Dr. Yamada who have dedicated their lives to working for the common good. His commitment to improving the state of our world inspires many, facilitating the service of dedicated and passionate individuals across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in celebration of Dr. Yamada's leadership and continued accomplishments. His work brings communities together, strengthening our collective resolve.

CONGRATULATING THE MAINE  
TROOP GREETERS ON WEL-  
COMING HOME 1,500,000 AMERICAN  
HEROES

**HON. BRUCE POLIQUIN**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2016*

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Maine Troop Greeters on recently welcoming home our 1,500,000th American hero.

I want to applaud and thank each one of these incredible individuals for their important, inspirational work to personally greet each American soldier—including hundreds of our canine heroes—when they return to U.S. soil through the Bangor International Airport, regardless of the time of day or night they arrive home.

Many of us remember the disgraceful treatment our brave servicemen received upon their arrival home from Vietnam. Thanks to the Maine Troop Greeter's incredible dedication, every military member now deployed overseas is welcomed back the way they deserve—with a friendly Maine face and heartfelt words expressing our Nation's great gratitude for their selfless service and joy for their safe homecoming.

I am privileged to be an honorary Maine Troop Greeter and to represent these incredible men and women in the United States Congress. I was also honored to invite Troop Greeter and American hero Norm Rossignol as my special guest at this year's State of the Union. America is the greatest country in the world because of patriots like these selfless individuals.

Again, I want to congratulate the amazing men and women of the Maine Troop Greeters on reaching this incredible 1.5 million troop milestone and I look forward to joining them again soon. God Bless America and God Bless the Maine Troop Greeters.

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GERARDO BARAJAS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gerardo Barajas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Gerardo Barajas is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Gerardo Barajas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Gerardo Barajas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW  
GARY, SAMUEL BORICK, AND  
JULIA FONTANA AS HONORABLE  
MENTION WINNERS OF THE 2016  
NATIONAL C-SPAN STUDENT  
CAM VIDEO CONTEST

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2016*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Matthew Gary, Samuel Borick, and Julia Fontana, who participated in the 2016 National C-Span Student Cam Video Contest. The five-minute entry entitled "2016: The Race to Protect the Environment" earned them an honorable mention.

The team created the documentary to emphasize why environmental policy should be at the forefront of 2016's political debates. The team met with qualified individuals such as environmental advocate Peter Iwanowicz, environmental policy expert Barry Rabe, and the Honorable ROBERT CASEY, Jr., a United States Senator from Pennsylvania. Through these interviews, they explored why environmental issues are neglected by politicians and why public officials and aspirants at the highest level should make them a priority.

As many of my colleagues know, I am a passionate advocate for the environment. I believe preserving our natural, recreational, and cultural resources is an environmental, as well as an economic, imperative. I am impressed by these young people and their contribution to the national dialogue. Like them, I believe we need to take steps to ensure our environment is in good hands for future generations.

It is an honor to recognize the achievement of Matthew Gary, Samuel Borick, and Julia Fontana. May they continue to strive for excellence in their education and be good stewards of our planet.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2016*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 166 and 167, "nay" on roll call votes 168 and 169, "yea" on roll call vote 170, "nay" on roll call vote 171, and "yea" on roll call vote 172.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 28, 2016*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was at the White House to discuss criminal justice reform and I was unable to return in time for roll call votes 170, 171, and 172. Had I been here, I would have voted Yes to 170, Ms. Waters Amendment; No to 171, Final Passage; and Yes to 172, on the Defend Trade Secrets Act.